

Please amend the claims as shown in the listing below:

In the claims:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A The method according to claim 17 wherein said autoimmune disease is generated by a failure in the production of IL-4 by Th2 cells.

3. (Currently amended) A The method according to claim 17 wherein said autoimmune disease is generated by a failure in the production of IL-4 ~~connected with a quantitative-and functional deficiency of a by T cell cells~~ with sub-type HSA⁺, CD4⁺CD8⁻ or CD4⁺CD8⁻, CD44⁺, TCR- $\alpha\beta^+$, V β 8⁺, NK1.1⁺.

4. (Currently amended) A The method according to claim 17 wherein said autoimmune disease is insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus, autoimmune encephalomyelitis, autoimmune rheumatoid arthritis, polyarthritis, ~~autoimmune type autoimmune-type 2 hepatitis, autoimmune gastritis, autoimmune sclerosis, sialadenitis, adrenalitis, ophoritis, glomerulonephritis or autoimmune thyroiditis or autoimmune-type autoimmune-type pathogenic mechanisms in a pathology from therapy associated with treating AIDS.~~

5 (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A The method according to claim 17 wherein said T lymphocytes are autologous or syngeneic cells of said patient.

7. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition for treating autoimmune diseases ~~related to a failure of immunoregulation by CD4⁺ cells or diminished production of IL-4~~ comprising as the active principle, autologous or syngeneic T lymphocytes ~~selected from the group consisting of thymocytes, from cells of said lymphocytes autologous or syngeneic to the patient for whom the pharmaceutical composition is intended, said T lymphocytes having previously been incubated in the presence of IL-7.~~

8. (Currently amended) A The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7, for

treating an autoimmune disease generated by a failure in the production of IL-4 by Th2 cells.

9. (Currently amended) A The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7 for treating an autoimmune disease generated by a failure in the production of IL-4 ~~connected with a quantitative and functional deficiency of by~~ cells of the sub-type HSA⁺, CD4⁺CD8⁻ or CD4⁺CD8⁻, CD44⁺, TCR- $\alpha\beta^+$, V β 8⁺, NK1.1⁺.

10. (Currently amended) A The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7 for treating insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus.

11. (Currently amended) A process for producing a pharmaceutical composition for treating autoimmune diseases related to a failure of immunoregulation by CD4⁺ cells or diminished production of IL-4, comprising mixing autologous or syngeneic T lymphocytes selected from the group consisting of thymocytes, from said cells autologous or syngeneic to cells of the patient for whom the composition is intended, said T lymphocytes having previously been incubated in the presence of IL-7 with a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle or diluent.

12. (Currently amended) A The process for producing a pharmaceutical composition for treating an autoimmune disease according to claim 11, wherein said autoimmune disease is generated by a failure in the production of IL-4 by Th2 cells.

13. (Currently amended) A The process for producing a pharmaceutical composition for treating an autoimmune disease according to claim 11, wherein said autoimmune disease is generated by a failure in IL-4 production ~~connected with a quantitative and functional deficiency of by~~ T cells with sub-type HSA⁺, CD4⁺CD8⁻ or CD4⁺CD8⁻, CD44⁺, TCR- $\alpha\beta^+$, V β 8⁺, NK1.1⁺.

14. (Currently amended) A The process for producing a pharmaceutical composition for treating an autoimmune disease according to claim 11, wherein said autoimmune disease ~~is~~ being insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus.

15. (Currently amended) A The method according to claim 17, wherein a therapeutically effective dose of interleukin-7 is administered to the patient.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently amended) A method of treating a patient with an autoimmune disease related to a failure of immunoregulation by CD4⁺ cells or diminished production of IL-4 comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective dose of interleukin-7 or T lymphocytes selected from the group consisting of thymocytes which have been incubated in the presence of IL-7, said therapeutically effective dose effecting IL-4 production.

18. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17 wherein the patient is treated with a therapeutically effective dose treatment comprises a therapeutically effective dose of T lymphocytes which have been incubated in the presence of IL-7.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18 wherein the patient has insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus.

20. (New) A method of treating a patient with an autoimmune disease expressing an IL-4 deficiency comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically effective dose of T lymphocytes which have been incubated in the presence of IL-7, said therapeutically effective dose effecting IL-4 production.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein said lymphocytes comprise thymocytes.